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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
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GENERAL ORVAL R. COOK, USAF

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Orval Ray Cook was born in West Union, Indiana, July 27, 1898. He was graduated from the U.S. Military Academy June 13, 1922, and commissioned a second lieutenant of Air Service.

Entering Primary Flying School at Brooks Field, Texas, General Cook was graduated from Advanced Flying School at Kelly Field, Texas, in January 1924, and remained there as an instructor. That August he joined the Third Pursuit Squadron at Clark Field in the Philippines, returning to Brooks Field in September 1926 as assistant engineering officer and flying instructor at the Primary Flying School. Entering the Air Corps Engineering School at Wright Field, Ohio, in June 1929, General Cook was graduated a year later and assigned to the Aircraft Branch at Materiel Division Headquarters there. He became an instructor at the U.S. Military Academy in June 1934, was graduated from the Air Corps Tactical School at Maxwell Field, Alabama, four years later, and from the Command and General Staff School at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, in June 1939.

Reassigned to the Materiel Center at Wright Field, General Cook served with the Engineering Section of the Production Division, becoming chief of the Section in April 1942. That November he was named district supervisor of the Eastern Procurement District at New York City, and the following May returned to Wright Field as chief of the Production Division.

Ordered to the Southwest Pacific in June 1945, General Cook joined the Far East Air Forces on Okinawa where he established an Air Force Depot and directed Air Force supply and maintenance activities in that area. After cessation of hostilities he was sent to Japan to establish an Air Depot, and assumed command of the Seventh Air Service Area Command. Going to Manila in January 1946, he assumed command of the Far East Air Service Command (later redesignated the Pacific Air Service Command).

Assigned to the War Department General Staff, Washington, D.C., in June 1946, General Cook was deputy director of the Service, Supply and Procurement Division (later redesignated the Logistics Division). Returning to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, in July 1948, he was deputy director of Procurement and Industrial Mobilization Planning, Air Materiel Command, becoming deputy to the commanding general for operations a few weeks later, and Director of Procurement and Industrial Planning, AMC, in September 1949.

Joining the U.S. European Command on April 1, 1954, General Cook was Deputy Commander-in-Chief, with headquarters at Frankfurt, Germany, moving to Paris, France, on May 3, 1954.

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His decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal and Legion of Merit. He is rated a command pilot, combat observer and aircraft observer.

General Cook and his wife, Mrs. Minna E. Cook, have three sons, Peyton, Orval and Benjamin.

PROMOTIONS

He was promoted to first lieutenant (permanent) May 14, 1927; to captain (permanent) August 1, 1935; to major (temporary) October 12, 1940; to lieutenant colonel (temporary) October 12, 1941; to colonel (temporary) March 2, 1942; to brigadier general (temporary) November 8, 1943; to lieutenant colonel (permanent) June 13, 1945; to major general (temporary) February 2, 1947; to brigadier general (permanent) February 19, 1948; to lieutenant general (temporary) July 28, 1951; to general (temporary) April 1, 1954.

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Up to date as of November 1955.